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Dartmouth College senior John Fanestil, a founder of the college's weekly student newspaper "The Harbinger," has been selected one of 32 American Rhodes Scholars, college officials announced Tuesday.

Fanestil, a resident of La Jolla, Calif., is the 53rd Dartmouth student awarded a Rhodes Scholarship since the honor was established in 1904 to provide for two to three years of post graduate study at Oxford University in England.

Fanestil, a government major who will graduate next June, said he plans to enroll in the philosophy, policy and economics programs while at Oxford in preparation for a career in politics or political research.

With a group of fellow students, Fanestil helped create "The Harbinger" and served two terms as editor-in-chief. He said founding and editing the weekly newspaper was the focus of his Rhodes application and essay.

"That has been my most meaningful and significant activity while at Dartmouth," he said.

Fanestil's time at Oxford won't be his first trip abroad. He just returned from London where he completed an internship program during the fall term at the London School of Economics. He spent the spring term of his sophomore year in France under Dartmouth's language study abroad program.

Last spring, he worked as an intern in Washington, D.C., at the Center for National Security Studies and wrote a chapter of a book, to be published next year, on CIA covert operations.